

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 OES-07 COME-00 AF-10
ARA-10 EA-07 NEA-10 CAB-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00 SS-15 L-03
NSC-05 /112 W

-----105985 090223Z /72

R 081528Z JUL 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8948
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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MONTREAL FOR USICAO REP

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: WMO
SUBJECT: SECOND SESSION WMO NORH ATLANTIC OCEAN STATION (NAOS)
BOARD, JULY 4-7, 1977

REF: STATE 141375

1. SUMMARY. BOARD NOT ABLE TO COMPLETE AGENDA DUE IMPASSE
BETWEEN USSR AND FRG OVER RUSSIAN SPELLING OF NAME FOR FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF GERMANY IN TEXT OF NAOS AGREEMENT. MEETING ADJOURNED TO
OCTOBER 1977.

2. SECOND SESSION NAOS BOARD WAS ATTENDED BY ALL REGULAR MEMBERS
EXCEPT TUNISIA AND BY OBSERVERS FROM YUGOSLAVIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA,
POLAND, BELGIUM, USA. WORLD METEOROLOGICALS ORGANIZATION (WMO)
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DAVIES ANNOUNCED THAT YUGOSLAVIA WOULD BECOME A PARTICIPANT IN THE
NAOS AGREEMENT ON 1 AUGUST 1977; AND GREECE AND ITALY HAD STARTED
THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS OF RATIFICATION OF THE AGREEMENT. BELGIUM
HOPED THAT ITS DECISION ON MEMBERSHIP COULD BE MADE IN A FEW MONTHS.
SEVERAL MEMBERS DEPLORED THE ABSENCE OF OTHER EUROPEAN STATES FROM
THE BOARD, AS WELL AS THE UNWILLINGNESS OF NORTH AMERICAN STATES TO
PARTICIPATE. THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY MADE A STATEMENT FOR

THE RECORD THAT QUOTE A FURTHER INCREASE IN EXPENDITURES FOR METEOROLOGICAL PURPOSES CANNOT BE EXPECTED UNQUOTE. BOTH GERMANY AND SWITZERLAND OPPOSED THE DRAFT STATEMENT OF OPERATING COSTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS.

3. UNFORTUNATELY, DISCUSSIONS ON THE PRACTICAL RUNNING OF THE AGREEMENT WERE FRUSTRATED BY THE POLITICAL QUESTION RAISED BY USSR REGARDING THE FORM ON THE RUSSIAN TEXT OF THE NAOS AGREEMENT OF THE NAME FOR THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. THE FIRST SESSION OF THE BOARD IN DEC 1976 HAD MADE SEVERAL AMENDMENTS TO THE TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT IN THE DIFFERENT LANGUAGES. (SEE FINAL REPORT OF FIRST SESSION OF BOARD, PAGE 7.) ONE OF THESE AMENDMENTS WAS TO CHANGE THE FORM OF SPELLING THE NAME FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY IN RUSSIAN. THIS WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD WITHOUT OBJECTION, AND THE SYG WMO WAS REQUESTED TO FORWARD ALL AMENDMENTS TO THE SYG UN. ON JAN 10, 1977 THE SOVIET MISSION IN GENEVA SENT A LETTER TO THE SYG WMO OBJECTING TO THE AMENDMENT TO CHANGE THE SPELLING OF FRG. COPY OF THIS LETTER WAS SENT TO ALL CONTRACTING PARTIES ON JAN 24, 1977. IN A LETTER OF 18 MARCH 1977, TO SYG WMO, THE FRG OBJECTED TO THE SOVIET PROPOSAL TO CANCEL THE AMENDMENT THAT HAD BEEN ADOPTED BY THE BOARD, STATING THAT "IT IS THE NATURAL RIGHT OF EVERY STATE TO DETERMINE ITS OWN DESIGNATION AS WELL AS THE FORM OF ITS INTERNATIONAL USE". THE TEXTS OF THESE LETTERS ARE GIVEN IN NAOS-II/DOC.3 AND 3 ADD.1.

4. AFTER TWO DAYS OF ARGUMENT BETWEEN THE PARTIES THERE WAS NO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RESOLUTION OF THE MATTER. AN INFORMAL MEETING OF THE NINE WAS HELD TO ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE THE ARGUMENT, AND DECIDED THAT IT COULD NOT BE SETTLED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE NAOS BOARD. ON A PROPOSAL OF THE NETHERLANDS, WITH ELEVEN OF THE 13 MEMBERS SUPPORTING, THE SESSION WAS ADJOURNED UNTIL 4 OCT 1977. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON ANY OF THE PROPOSALS PRESENTED UP TO THAT STAGE IN THE PLENARY DOCUMENTS.

5. FYI THERE WAS AN UNDERCURRENT OF FEELING AMONG SOME OF THE WESTERN DELEGATES ON THE BOARD THAT THE FRG HAD "SLIPPED IN" THE AMENDED NAME AND THE RUSSIAN MEMBER OF THE BOARD HADN'T RECOGNIZED ITS SIGNIFICANCE. ALSO, THE SYG HAD NOT CARRIED OUT THE INSTRUCTION TO TRANSMIT THE AMENDMENTS TO THE TEXT OF THE NAOS AGREEMENT TO THE SYG UN BEFORE THE SOVIET LETTER OF 10 JAN 1977 HAD BEEN RECEIVED. IT WAS THE FEELING OF SOME THAT, HAD THIS BEEN DONE, THE PROBLEM WOULD HAVE BEEN EASIER TO DEAL WITH, SINCE THE SOVIETS WOULD THEN HAVE TO MAKE A NEW PROPOSAL TO RE-AMEND THE OFFICIAL TEXTS AS RECORDED IN UN HEADQUARTERS. END FYI.

6. AT THE TIME OF THE VOTE ON ADJOURNMENT, THE SOVIET MEMBER OF THE BOARD MADE A STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD TO THE GENERAL EFFECT THAT FAILURE TO ACCEPT THEIR PROPOSAL ON THIS ISSUE COULD SERIOUSLY AFFECT

THEIR FURTHER PARTICIPATION IN THE AGREEMENT AND THE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION OF OTHER EUROPEAN STATES. A SIMILARLY HARD LINE STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD WAS MADE BY THE FRG BOARD MEMBER.

7. COPIES OF THE PLENARY DOCUMENTS PRODUCED FOR THE SESSION BUT NOT ACTED UPON, AS WELL AS STATEMENTS FOR THE RECORD, ARE BEING FORWARDED BY AIR POUCH TO IO/SCT.

8. ADDRESSEES SHOULD NOTE THAT THE US IS NOT PRESENTLY A PARTY TO THE NAOS AGREEMENT, AND WAS REPRESENTED AT THE JULY 4-7 MEETING ONLY IN AN OBSERVER CAPACITY.SORENSEN

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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